

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application. This Amendment amends claim 1, adds claims 11 and 12, and addresses each point of rejection raised by the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

As a preliminary matter, claim 1 is amended to correct a typographical error introduced into claim 1 in the last amendment. Specifically, a line number "15" was picked up in the text of the claim.

Claims 1 and 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,666,160 to Hwang. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang in view of U.S. Patent 5,412,421 to Hale.

As demonstrated in the preferred embodiment of the present application, a large-area image (*i.e.*, zoomed-out image) is formed from a collage of small-area images; for example, a large image is created exceeding the area limits of what a camera's CCD can capture as an individual image. *See e.g.*, pages 4 and 5, and Figs. 4E, 4F, and 5. This concept is neither taught nor suggested by Hwang, nor Hwang in view of Hale.

In an effort to better emphasize this distinction, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to describe both overlapping and non-overlapping portions of the individual images in the zoomed-out image. Applicant also adds claim 11, which describes an image area of the zoomed-out image as larger relative to an area of individual images, and adds claim 12, which describes that the zoomed-out image includes an area larger than a respective area within a

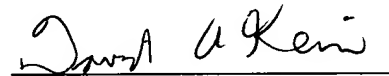
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No. 09/472,958

viewing angle of a camera when capturing each of the individual images. No new matter is added.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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